

REMARKS

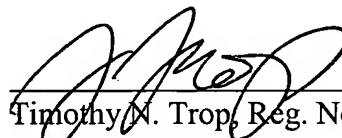
The objections set forth in paragraphs 3-7 have been corrected.

With respect to the prior art rejection, it relies on references which are not prior art. Namely, the effective filing date of the present application is April 12, 2000, which predates both the cited Himmel and Hill applications.

Therefore, reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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